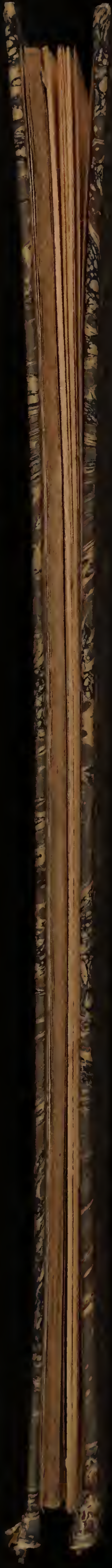


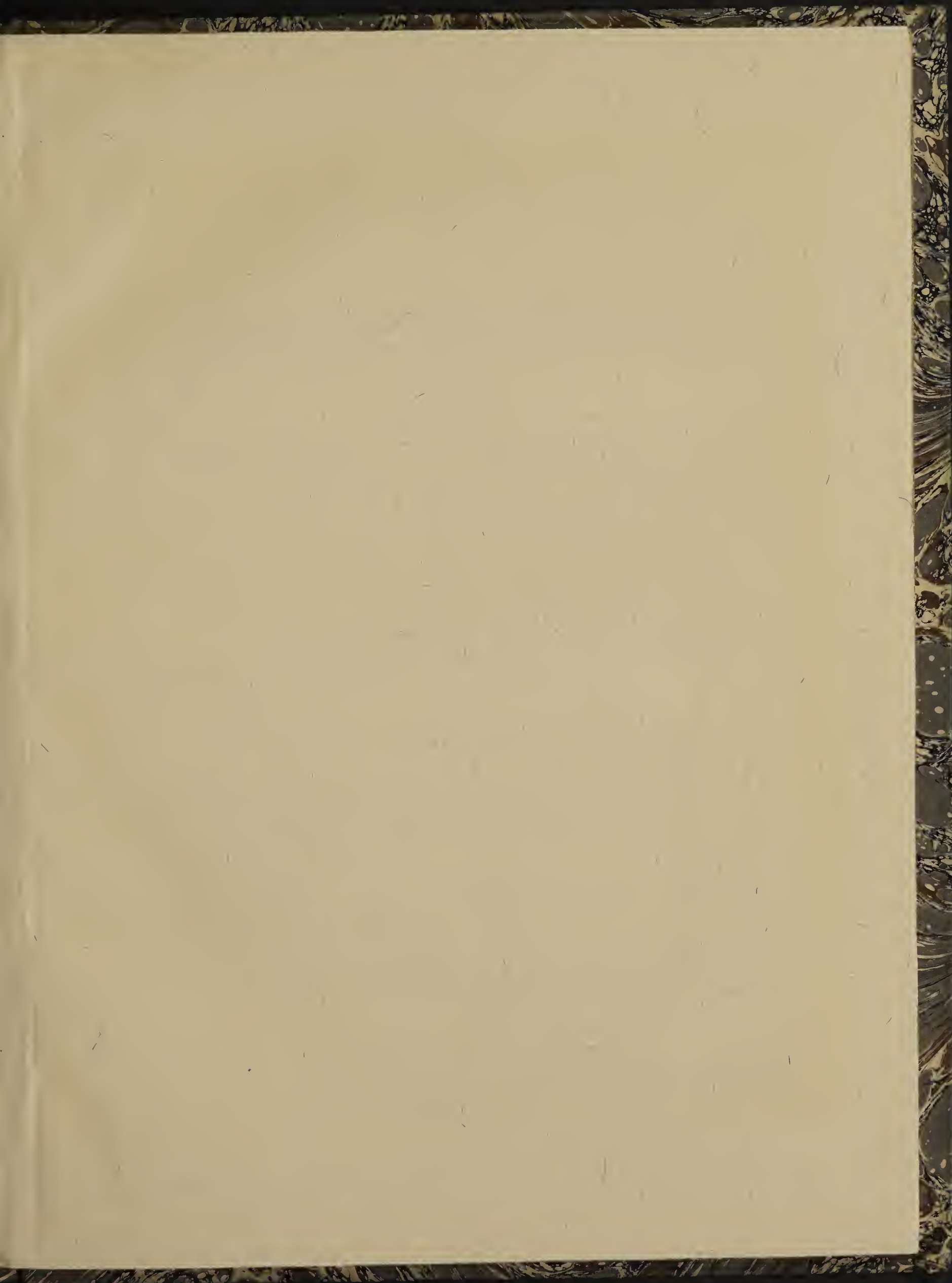
HARRISON — LAST WORDS — 1692







27,704 / 3



THE
LAST WORDS
OF A

Dying Penitent :

BEING

An Exact Account of the Passages, Proceedings, and Reasons on which was grounded the first Suspicion of his being concerned in the Bloody inhumane Murder of Dr. Clinch, on the 4th of January 1691. between the hours of Nine and Eleven: With a Brief Observation on what was Sworn by most of the Witnesses against him. For which he was Executed on the 15th of April 1692.

The which he leaves to the World to Judge.

Trusting as to his Innocency in this, and relying on God Almightyes Pardon for all his manifold sins; in and through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ he hopes to be saved.

Jesus Christ came into the World to save sinners, of whom I am the chief, 1 Tim. 1. 15.

Written with his own Hand after Condemnation.
HEN. HARRISON.

Licensed April 16. 1692.

London, Printed, and are to be Sold by Randal Taylor near Stationers-
Hall, 1692.

THE HISTORY OF THE
WELSH MEDICAL LIBRARY



The People expect a Confession always at the time of any Mans Execution : Therefore at that hour when it shall please God to call me to it, that I may have nothing more to do than to recommend my Body and Soul to him that gave it, I have writ this, which has a little taken my thoughts from my Duty to God, for which I emplore his Pardon.

I beg of the Reader to make no Nice Construction of my words, but to take the real honest meaning.

I have writ this merely, and only for the satisfaction of my Relations, Friends and Acquaintance. I have not had time to digest it into Method, because Time is precious with me now.

IN the first place I will give an Account of my first Acquaintance with that Gentlewoman Mrs. *Vauwick*, for whom the World believes I committed this bloody inhumane Murther, and for which I now suffer.

About two years ago I was brought acquainted with her, being a Widdow, by a Gentlewoman of my Acquaintance ; and had not been above 2 or 3 times in her Company, till I was Arrested for 40 l. at that time I having got a Commission for Cornet in my Lord *Danbies* Regiment ; whereupon my Friend came to see me in Prison, and with her this Gentlewoman : I told them I was un-

done ; for I had but just got my Commission, and if my Lord should hear of it, I should lose it ; and my Relations would never do any thing for me, who were able to furnish me with such a Sum as was fitting for that Post. Whereupon this Gentlewoman took pity of that my misfortune, and trusting to my Honesty, became bound for that Debt, by means whereof I had my Liberty : But in 2 Months time the Regiment was quite off ; and ever since I have been quite out of Employ. But after this I several times visited the Gentlewoman, and found her very Melancholy , I then not knowing any of her Concerns ; but at last prevail'd with her to tell me the occasion, which was to this effect : (I will but hint just on the heads of those Matters that were her Ruin and my Death. I could have writ a whole Volume on this Subject, had it not been at this time, which is precious to me, and ought to be employed in nothing else, but in Prayers to Almighty God for the forgiveness of my sins, and to prepare me for my latter end ; but I hope God will forgive me, because I write nothing but Truth, to the best of my knowledg.)

This Gentlewoman had left her 500 l. to be laid out in a Purchase for her self during Life, and afterwards for the use of her Children. This money lying for some time dead in Dr. *Edisburies* hands, one of the Masters of Chancery, She applied her self to one Mr. *Samuel Hartlib* to find her out a Purchase for the said money. This *Hartlib*, as I was informed, was a Man formerly of very good business and Credit, but at that time was very poor and needy. He brought her acquainted with one Mr. *Row*, and Mr. *Edwards*, who were the sole Actors of a Purchase of Houses in *Buckingham-Court*, tho there were several concerned, as Mr. *Royor*, Mr. *Royley*, Mr. *Chambers*, and Mr. *Bayley*, who had Mortgages of the said 2 Houses. But in short, the purchase was made, and Mr. *Row* got in to

to be Trustee, by the help of his good Friends Mr. *Hartlib* and Mr. *Edwards*, and was confirmed so by a Decree in Chancery. Pray observe, that this 500 l. was all this poor Woman had in the World ; and the Purchase was made for 550 l. for which fifty pounds one of the said two Houses was Mortgaged to the said Mr. *Chambers* at that very time : But pray note, that before the Purchase, she told Mr. *Row*, that she had taken up 50 l. in Household Goods, and owed some 15 or 20 l. more, and unless she could have an Hundred Pounds more out of her own money, (to pay off her Debts) she would not meddle with it : They promised her faithfully that she should have it at the Sealing of the Writings, at which time the money was to be paid for the said Purchase. But pray now observe, Here was the immediate Ruin to the poor Widdow, and also had been to her 4 small Children, if her Relations had not taken them when they were just a going to the Parish, and in the long run is my unhappy End, God forgive them.

At the time of receiving the money, her Trustee Mr. *Row*, and Mr. *Edwards* his Confederate, and Mr. *Royley*, and some others, being at a Tavern, they seemingly quarrelled amongst themselves, insomuch, that she thought they would have fought ; but it was about dividing the money, which was over and above the real Value of the Purchase ; and the poor Woman expecting still her Hundred Pounds according to the promise made her, she began to examine Mr. *Row*, on whom she relied, having put all she had in the World for her self and four Children to live upon, into his Trust, Where is my Hundred Pounds, that I may carry it home and pay my Debts ? Whereupon Mr. *Row* said, Do you see Madam what Rogues these are ? they have received the money this Morning ; Hang them, Hang them, never trouble your self, as I am your Trustee, I'll serve you,

and indeed he has serv'd her, and me too, as you will find in the Sequel of this unhappy Paper. Says Row, *Madam, I have Fifty Pounds in my Trunk which has not seen day this Seven Years, you shall have that to-morrow; and my Credit can raise you Fifty or an Hundred Pound more in a day or two's time.* This was about June or July 1690. but on what day I cannot tell, because I have not the Writings: But from the day of her paying the money, she could scarce ever see Mr. Row; but when she did, he made frivolous Excuses of paying away a great Sum of money, and such like; but that he was a raising money, which she should have this day, and the other day; but alas his Credit could not raise Five Pounds in the whole World at that time, as I was credibly informed; and as all persons that knew him do know to be true, he being at the same time either a Prisoner at large in the Kings Bench, or a Soldier in one of the Companies of Kings-Guards for his Protection. This is most certainly true, when the Widdow, and others of her Acquaintance informed me of the truth of this, she then intreated, and begg'd of me with Tears and Prayers, to assist her in this her deplorable Condition. I could not refuse it her, considering the great Obligation she had first laid on me: Therefore out of Gratitude I could do no less than help her. Now for what past after, I can affirm to be Truth of my own Knowledg: As I am a dying Man I will not say any thing but what is Truth, to the best of my knowledg. Now she being deluded by him and his Confederate Mr. Edwards, and she not having the Hundred Pounds according to promise, out of her own money, she was presently ruined, lost her Credit with her Creditors, to whom she promised payment at that time when she made the Purchase, and so day after day, and week after week, as he promised her she should have it by his procurement, which he could not perform, by reason

reason of his base dealing in the World. At this time she had a House very well furnished in the City, and was forced to absent her House, and leave her Children and Servants only there ; and she was forced day after day to take Goods out of her House, to dispose of to maintain her Children, and follow him up and down from Tavern to Tavern, in expectation of his raising her the Hundred Pounds, which she could not do her self, by reason the Estate in Law was in him : But now pray observe, the two Houses were sold her as well Tenanted then at 40 *l. per annum* each House, out of which there was 30 *l. per annum* Ground-Rent to be paid ; but no sooner was the Purchase-money paid, but the Tenants left the Houses, being only Tenants at Will ; so that the Houses lay empty all this while, and the Ground-Rent and Kings Taxes running on, she was head and ears up in Debt ; and no body would take the Houses, because Mr. Row was concerned : So that she was forced to quit her House she then lived in in the City, and live in one of her own Houses.

Now comes the dismal Story of the Hundred Pounds borrowed of Dr. Clinch, which was the occasion of her Ruine, and my unhappy Misfortune.

Row not performing his promise of supplying her with the Hundred Pounds, she applied her self to Dr. Clinch, who was her very good Friend, and her Husbands before her. He furnished her with the money, and paid it honestly ; but would not lend it, unless Mr. Row would joyn with her in a Lease or Mortgage of one of the two Houses, and be bound with her for the money, because she could make no Security her self ; which he readily did, that he might the better defraud her. But at that time, Counsellor Fairbeard being out of Town at Tunbridge, the Dr. would do nothing till his return, only in the mean time he supplied her with 30 *l.* at three several times,

times; and paid it thus, 15 *l.* at one time, and 10 *l.* at another, and 5 *l.* at another; which Mr. *Row* received to redeem her Goods which she had pawned to supply her necessities. It is true, he did redeem some of her Goods, but she could not have any Account of the laying out of her money, till at last Mr. *Fairbeard* coming to Town, and the Writings were drawn by him, and afterwards sealed, and this was not till *November* following; the remainder of the money was paid by Dr. *Clinch's* Order at Sir *Francis Child's* Shop at *Temple-Bar*; but at the receiving of it, there a dispute arose betwixt Mr. *Row* and the Widdow, Mr. *Row* not permitting her to receive the money, unless he had 20 *l.* under pretence, that there was so much due to him by a Bill he delivered her the Night before; which was a base, unreasonable Bill; and withall, that there was Monies rather due to the Widdow from Mr. *Row*, upon a fair Account betwixt them; but nevertheless the Widdow said in my hearing, Mr. *Row* take ten or fifteen pounds, and let us go to the next Tavern, and take you one, and I will take another, to adjust the Accounts betwixt us: No said *Row*, Madam you shall not receive a penny, unless I have 20 *l.* and then I will meet you at the Tavern, which he then had: So she and I went to the Tavern, Mr. *Row* promised he would come to us to settle the Accounts, we stay'd two hours for him, and then he sent word, he had met with some persons about other business, and could not come, but would wait on her another time at her own House; but he never came at her, tho she sent for him several times, but kept out of the way, all her Concerns lying at Random; her hands being tyed so, that she could do nothing without him, as to the letting of the other House, and several other matters too tedious now to mention.

Now pray observe, That the Dr. at the time the Writings

ings were Sealed, or thereabouts, assigned over the same Security, or made some other Security, or Mortgage to *Row* of the said House; *Row* giving the Dr. Bond to see the Covenants performed in the Deeds made from Mr. *Row* (being Trustee) and the Widow, to Dr. *Clinch*; which Covenants were these, That the Dr. should be paid Quarterly 6 l. odd Money, and so continue till the Doctor's whole Money was paid, which would be in Five years time or thereabouts: Now pray also observe, That the last Money was but paid in *November* 1690, and the first quarterly Payment became due at Quarter-day next following. For the Dr. expected that quarterly Payment, from the time he had lent the first 30l. at 15l. one time, 10l. another, and 5l. another; as I first mentioned: Tho the Case is intricate, I would make it as plain as I can, that the Truth may be understood: For *Row* several times said he had done that which would puzzle 20 Lawyers.

Observe, That Mr. *Row* made it his Business both to the Widows Relations, and other People concerned with her, that I had ruined her, and spent all she had, when as you may find by this, that all she had was but 500l. and it was every Penny of it paid away for the Purchase; and that she only had Forty One Pounds Fifteen Shillings, most of which, was paid away at the receiving of it, to some of her Creditors. And that for 3 Months I supported her and her Children, partly with my own Money, and by getting in Debts that were due to her, besides an endless Trouble I had in bringing Mr. *Row* to an Account, which is not yet done.

It is desired that her Relations will take notice, that at the time of the Purchase, and at the payment of the Money, after Mr. *Row* got in to be Trustee, he got her to sign a Deed, particularly a Covenant in the Deed was to this or like effect, That after the Death of Mrs. *Vauricke* and

and her 4 Children, the Estate to come to him and his Heirs. Upon which I often used to say, That he designed to break the Widdows Heart, and Starve the Children, that the Estate might come to him and his Son.

Now *Row* being Trustee, and also having a Deed from the Dr. for which he was glad; he domineered and ranted about, saying, That he had Houses in *Buckingham* Court, and kept the poor Woman under, that she durst not do any thing, neither could she, by reason of his being Trustee, and also having that Deed from the Dr. But now I knowing the abuses done the poor Woman, and that she could never get him to come to any Account, she applied her self to me again to right her, if I could by any means: Upon which I went to Mr. *Fairbeard* and told him what had past; and that Mr. *Row* was an ill man; and that we could never get him to come to any Account, as he promised he would do in his hearing at *Sir Francis Child's* Shop, he being then present: Mr. *Fairbeard* said he could not believe it, for Mr. *Row* was a man of Credit and Reputation; and as he told him, he was an Attorney of the Common-Pleas. I made answer, that he was no such man, but an Impostor and a Cheat: whereupon he advised me to go to Mr. *Cooke* the Prothonotary at the Temple, and search whether he was an Attorney of the Common-Pleas or no; and if he was not, I should take a Summons from my Lord Chief Justice, and he would come and justifie he own'd himself to be an Attorney of the Common-Pleas, and so by that means have him turned out from being Trustee: Now I finding him not to be so, I did take out a Summons from my Lord Chief Justice of the Common-Pleas, and Mr. *Row* meeting me according to the Summons, desired me to let him alone, and he would come to an Account, and deliver up his Trust, and do any thing else I would have him; and this he promised before Mr. *Hales* of the Temple, an

At-

Attorney of the Common Pleas ; but for 3 weeks or a month after, we could neither see nor hear of him, till one came and informed us that he was to be a Witness in *Westminster-Hall*, and there we had a Summons from my Lord Chief Justice *Holt*, to appear before him : which was done : And being before my Lord, we had a small hearing of the Cause, as I may call it ; for we had there Mr. *Lloyd* of the Temple our Counsel, and my Lord hearing what was alledged against him, told him, that he was an ill man, and said thus to Row, *You are a fine Fellow to be a Trustee.* My Lord finding that he was a Trustee made in Chancery, advised us to make an end, and spoke thus to Mr. *Lloyd*, *As you are her Counsel, let Mr. Row take another, and make an end ; for the poor Woman will be ruined, or to this effect.* Mr. Row readily answer'd he would, and that he would bring Mr. *H.* (any one may judge the meaning of that.)

The time and place being appointed, Mr. *Lloyd*, the Widow, and my self, went there, where we met Mr. Row, and 2 or 3 Fellows of his Gang, but no Mr. *H.* was there ; Mr. Row said, what should I have Counsel, I can do my business my self ; Mr. *Lloyd* told him, he was not to argue the Case with him but Mr. *H.* and they two were to make an end, if they could agree ; whereupon Mr. *Lloyd* was angry with him, and went away : So that he was then upon the Hide and Seek again, putting us every day to great Expences ; for he did not care to part with his Trusteeship : And for us to come to my Lord Chief Justice again, would put the Widow to more Charges, and that my Lord could do nothing in it, because he was a Trustee in Chancery.

Now what to do we could not tell, but we then petitioned the Lords Commissioners, and Mr. Serjeant *Tremayne* our Counsel : Upon hearing what was alledged against the said Mr. Row, the Lord Commissioner Raw-

2
Linson said, it was the most barbarous Case he ever heard. Pray note, That *Row* was to appear that day but durst not; knowing the Villany that he had committed, whereupon by an Order of Court, a Messenger was ordered to take *Mr. Row* into Custody; (the Petition and Orders ought to be inserted here, but that my little time I have to live ought to be otherwise employed.) Now after the Messenger was awarded against him, he absconded himself from his Dwelling-house, and all other places he then used; so that the Messenger of the Chancery *Mr. Bush*, and my self, daily hunting after him for near the space of a month, but could not take him. Pray observe here, that this was in *April 1691.* and also observe, that from *Christmas* before till that time, *Mr. Row* daily and hourly threatened to seise her Goods, and take possession; and she did leave her House for fear of it, for some little time, expecting to be relieved by the Lords Commissioners, but she left her Children and Maid in possession: Now *Row* by force entred, without any manner of Law; for he turned the Children out of Doors, and sold the Bed from under them, and took the rest of the Goods that were in the House. Now is the time that *Dr. Clinch's* Name comes to be mentioned; and I beg of you observe, I will make it as clear as I can, and speak nothing but the Truth to the best of my Knowledg; and as I hope to see God in Glory. Now when *Mr. Row* had turned the poor Fatherless Children out of Doors, &c. Then the Widow applied her self to the Dr. and told him what had past, and wondered why he would not keep the Security in his own hands, but make it over to *Row*: Said she to the Dr. I dare trust you with all I have in the World. I am now using endeavours to get *Row* turned out of his Trusteeship, and bring him to an Account for the money he owes me, and the Goods he has wronged me of; for he twice robbed the House of the Locks, Keys, and

and Bolts, under pretence of his being Trustee. I hope no body can call it any thing else but Robbery, when she owed him nothing, but he was in her Debt 50 l. or thereabouts, and she could not take the Law of him, because he was her Trustee. So that the Widow solicited the Dr. several times with a great many Prayers and Supplications, to stand her Friend till such time as he was righted in Chancery.

And now was the time that Row applied himself to the Dr. and insinuated himself so far into the Doctors favour as to make him believe that it was all false; and that he was the wronged man, and that she owed him a great deal of moneys, and withall told him, that it was not he that had ruined the Widow and Fatherless, but one *Mr. Harrison*, who was a Gamester, and spent and play'd away all her money; and so *Mr. Row* and his Agents made it their business to make him believe so, and every one else that was concerned, but more particularly her Relations, fearing lest they should undertake her just Cause, being monied People, and persons of great Note and Credit; and he did effect his design, for from that time till now her Relations would not look upon her, nor hear any thing of her, because he had so bespattered her concerning me.

Now was the time I told her, that I would use my endeavours and interest with the Dr. who was my very good Friend, and for several years had known him; for he had been my Physitian; and many times when he saw me, told me he would come Day or Night to serve me, if I had need for him. Nay further than that, at the time the Duke of *Norfolks* Regiment was to be raised, he told me, if I would have a Commission in that Regiment, he had that Interest with the Duke, that he believed he could do any thing with him; but I told him I was engaged to a Person of Quality already. Now let the Reader

judge, whether or no I had any reason to injure the Dr. or much more to Murder him. Now was the time also I solicited the Dr. upon the Widows Account, who always shewed me Civility and Respect, and never an Angry word past betwixt us. And also about this time the Dr. imploy'd one *Mr. Johnson* of *Furnivals-Inn*, to look after the business: Says the Dr. *Mr. Harrison*, I do not understand the Law, and besides that, I have a great deal of business otherwise, I cannot trouble my self; but I have left it all to *Mr. Johnson*: Upon this, I told the Widow what the Dr. had done, That he had left it all to one *Mr. Johnson*; whereupon she replied, That she was got out of the Frying-pan into the Fire, for her Relations knew who he was; but I was altogether a Stranger to *Mr. Johnson*. Now pray observe, that at that time all our Applications to the Dr. or *Mr. Johnson*, was to let her have a little more money, till she had made an end in Chancery, and got *Row* out from his Trusteeship; for she intended to undertake some Imploy to maintain herself and Children, and that the Dr. should have possession of both the Houses for his Security; and we would endeavour to get a Decree in Chancery for that purpose. The Dr. and I many times argued the Case, and once or twice, computed the In-come of the Estate, and what might be lent upon it: The Dr. was sensible of the Wrongs done the Widow, and would have helped her in any thing, if *Mr. Johnson* had not prevented him. Now you must understand the Widow could do nothing to help herself as to raising of Money, for these 2 Reasons: First, Because *Row* was Trustee, and not then turned out, nor is yet; as you will understand by the Sequel of the Story: So now to come back to *Mr. Row*, where I mentioned him as to his absconding himself; that the Messenger could not take him, whereas by an other Order, made the Twenty Sixth day of May, 1691. It was ordered.

dered one Mr. Royor and Royley, Mr. Edwards and Dr. Clinch, were to attend Sir John Hoskyns, about the Matters in question ; for you must know, that we had the wole Business on the Stage, as to all the Persons concerned in putting that Purchase upon her, and by what devices and means Mr. Row got in to be Trustee. Now this was the time that Dr. Clinch first began to be displeased, and so was Mr. Fairbeard his Counsel, and Mr. Johnson, for bringing his, Name in question, where so black a Case appeared to the Lords Commissioners, on Row's Account, saying, *Have not I lent my Mony, and paid it honestly ?* Yes, Sir, I know it ; but Row received the most of it, and the Widow cannot get an Account of it ; and it was by our Counsel's Advice that we did it ; for by the Dr's appearing before the Mr. in Chancery, all was made clear, how Mr. Row and his Confederates were the Persons that had ruined the Widow and her Children, as by the Report does appear, which ought to be inserted here. But no more of that. I hope now her Relations will have pity of her disconsolate condition, being the most wronged Widow in the World, to whom I have ordered the Papers of the Proceedings of her Cause to be carefully delivered. Only thus much of the Report made by Sir John Hoskyns, which I shewed my Lord Chief Justice at my Tryal. But he told me, it would signifie nothing to my Tryal ; which is thus *verbatim*. And as for Dr. Clinch his matter, I find that the said Dr. Clinch was desired by the said Mrs. Vauwick and Mr. Row, presently after the said Purchase of the said 2 Houses, to lend the said Mrs. Vauwick an Hundred Pound to furnish one of the said Houses ; and there being a Debt of 14 l. that was due to Dr. Clinch from the said Mrs. Vauwick's late Husband Deceased, and about 3 l. 17 s. for Interest thereof, the said Dr. Clinch did lend the said Mrs. Vauwick Two Guineas more, which made it up Twenty Pounds ; and the
said

said Mrs. *Vauwick* secured the said Twenty Pounds by her Bond ; and the said Dr. *Clinch* at their, the said *Row* and *Vauwick's* Desire, did undertake to lend it, upon his being secured the said 100 l. and the said 20 l. in all 120 l. by a Mortgage of one of the said Two Houses, to be paid at times in the Deeds for that purpose mentioned; the which 100 l. I find was paid, and disposed, and received thus, 41 l. 15 s. to the said Mrs. *Vauwick*, 5 l. to Mr. *Fairbeard* and his Clerk for Writings, 3 l. for the ensuring Mrs. *Vauwick's* Life, and 50 l. 5 s. to the said Mr. *Row* for the use of Mrs. *Vauwick*.

Now we having got this Report, all our business was done with Dr. *Clinch*, and this Report was Signed, 8th of August 1691. by Sir *John Hoskyns*. By this Report it appears, who wronged the Widow, as you will find also by a Petition here inserted, upon which the Widow was to have an Hearing. The Petition was thus *verbatim*.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of *England*, the Humble Petition of *Anna Katherina Vauwick*, and her 4 small Children, sheweth,

That your Petitioner has been basely defrauded of all she has by Robert Row, a pretended Attorney of the Common Pleas ; and that your Petitioner being advised by the Lord Chief Justice Holt to petition your Lordships, provided he did not come to an Account, and pay your Petitioner the Monies he so unjustly detained from her, upon pretence of being her Trustee : And the said Row failing his Promise to the said Lord Chief Justice, your Petitioner petitioned your Lordships accordingly about 4 Months ago ; and upon hearing what was alledged by Mr. Serjeant Tremaine, your Petitioners then Counsel, your Lordships thought it a very

hard Case, and were pleased to order a Messenger to take him into Custody. But he absconding himself for the space of a Month, your Lordships were pleased to refer the matter to Sir John Hoskyns, to examin the same, which he hath done. But by reason of the many Delays of the said Row, your Petitioners having no Support, but what Friends has given them out of Charity, she having pawned and sold all her Goods and Wearing Apparel for Sustenance for her Children, and in bringing the said Row to an Account, that your Petitioner and her Children are ready to starve, and that for this Month last past they have scarce eat or drunk any thing but Bread and Water.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays in tender Commiseration to your Petitioner and her Childrens Sufferings, to appoint a Day for the said Row to Attend, and that the Masters report by your Lordships particular Order may then be heard; and that your Petitioner and her Children may have such present Relief from the said Row, as to your Lordships great Wisdom shall seem meet. And your Petitioner shall ever Pray.

Now this Petition for a Hearing before the Lord's Commissioners was delivered to the Clerk of the Petitions about a Week or Ten Days before Michaelmas Term last, but not having Mony, it was not Signed; and within few days after the Widow was Arrested by one Taylor an Upholsterer, who is an Acquaintance of Mr. Row's; but whether by the contrivance of Row or no, I dare not say, tho we suspected it, he dreading what would become of him when such a barbarous Case should be laid open. Now pray observe, that the Widow was Arrested about Two Months, or thereabouts, before the Dr. was murdered, and not at his Suit. Pray take notice, and withal observe the part of the Report

inserted

2
 inserted here, relating to Dr. *Clinch*, and also the Petition, and likewise who it is that was in the wrong, and who had ruined the Widow, whether Dr. *Clinch* or *Row*. And now to whom any Malice or Revenge ought to be done, whether to the Doctor, who had honestly paid the Mony, or to *Row*, who had not only, with his Confederates, (the Persons formerly mentioned) cheated her above an Hundred Pounds in the Purchase, and also 2 Quarters Rents, as the rest of the Report makes out, and also as you find by the Report here, 50 *l.* 5 *s.*

Now she being Arrested, and in the Compter Two Months before the Drs. Death, and not at his Suit, let all the World judge, whether or no the Dr. was murdered upon her Account or no. And I do protest in the Presence of Almighty God, and as I hope for Salvation, I had not spoken to the Dr. in 3 Months time before his Death, the last time being at his own House, to my best remembrance. And Dr. *Clinch*'s own Coachman owned to me, That he believed it was about 3 Months. And pray let the Reader consider, that there was no Advantage could be had, and that it would be nothing in the Widows way, if it had pleased God that Dr. *Clinch* had died in his Bed. And also observe, that the Widow had not Five Shillings at that time, nor could not tell where to get one Guinea in the World, if it could have procured her Liberty: For at that time her Acquaintance were making a Purse for her, to bring her *Habeas Corpus*; for the Marshal told me, he would take my Word for her Liberty: Therefore you must know by this she had no Mony to give me to hire a Ruffian. Now it pleased God that Dr. *Clinch* was most barbarously murdered, on the 4th of *January*, betwixt 9 and 11 at Night. I need not mention the manner, because 'tis too well known. Now it being such a barbarous black Deed, startled all the Town. It seems, before the next Night it was
 given

given out that Mr. Row and my Self knew the 2 Ruffians that committed this Fact; but the next Day after it was done, being *Tuesday*, it was 2 a Clock before I heard of it, which was at *Joe's Coffee House* going into *Salisbury-Court*, where I was told of the Murther, and the manner of it, as they heard it was done: I remember very well what I said, These were the boldest daring Villains I ever heard of; What, to Murther a Man in the open Streets, and at that time of the Night, and carry him through the City in a Coach when all the Watch was set? And I do remember that I took Pen and Ink, and writ a Letter to the Widow in the *Compter*, which was to this or the like Effect: *Madam, I just now have heard of the blackest inhuman Murther that ever was known; but before this I suppose you have heard of it, because it is all over the Town, if not, it's thus: Doctor Clinch was last Night barbarously Murthered in a Coach in Leaden-Hall-street. And so writ, as I heard how it was done, &c.* The same Night I was at one *Clinch's Coffee-House* in *Mitre-Court*, where every one was talking of it, for it was a general Discourse. The same Night I was to see for a Gentleman there who ow'd me Mony, and he came in whilst I was there, and told me, that he had received a Bill out of the Country, and desired me to meet him at the *Sugar-Loaf* in *White-Fryers*, and dine with him the next Day; which Words were spoke publickly. Upon which, I suppose, the Constable was directed; for the next Day I came there, and enquired for the Gentleman, and they told me he was at *Clinch's Coffee-House*; and going there, I met the Constable, who as soon as he saw me, said thus, or to the like Effect; *Mr. Harrison, I am sorry to meet with you, I have my Lord Chief Justice's Warrant against you: For what?* said I. *Go to the Sugar-Loaf and I'll tell you,* said he; yes, with all my Heart. When we came there, several of *Dr. Clinch's Friends*

C

were

were there ; what past is not material : So they carried
 me to the Constable's House in *Grays-Inn-Lane*, where
 we staid about 2 Hours, because my Lord was busie
 there : We discoursed about Mr. *Row*, and the Business
 on which I have writ before, and I told them, I had
 not seen Mr. *Row* this long time, nor the Dr. to my
 Knowledg, for *Row* and I were perfect Enemies, not
 knowing then he was suspected to be one with me ; but
 being brought before my Lord, *Row* was there ; and he
 brought Witneses where he was, and Bail with him :
 But now pray observe my failing, I being surprized, be-
 ing examin'd where I was, I told my Lord, That I was
 at such a Place shrom 7, or 8. or thereabouts, till 11. or
 thereabouts ; but not having the Persons there to justifie
 it, I was sent to *Newgate*, and *Row* Bailed. Now pray
 observe, that Mr. *Row* and my self were suspected then
 to be the 2 Persons ; now I being committed, and a
 scandalous Libel coming out the next Day, made all the
 World believe I was the Man that committed it. I was
 almost Distracted, and I thank God that he did not give
 me over to Despair ; but at last I was a little settled in
 my Mind, and began to consider, That it was for my Sins,
 my former Sins, he suffer'd this Judgment to come upon
 me, and I became calm and considered, and did, and
 ever since have, blessed be his Holy Name for this his
 Fatherly Chastisement ; and he has ever since given me
 Patience under all my Sufferings, and supported me un-
 der all my Afflictions till this time ; and I trust and firm-
 ly believe, he will not forsake me at the Hour of my
 Death. After a day or two being in Prison, I sent for
 the People of the House where I was, and desired them
 to recollect themselves what time I came there, and how
 long I staid there ; and sent to those Persons that were in
 Company, to know certainly the time, for they were
 all partly Strangers to me : I had an Account given
 me

me, for I could not recollect every thing my self; but you will understand in my Case following: And when my Witnesses had given me the satisfaction, the Sessions coming on about 10 days after, I had all my Witnesses there, and Petitioned for my Tryal; but was put off, because the Coroner had not brought in his Inquest. Now pray observe, that the Coroner had been with me, and took my Examination, before that Sessions; and promised me he would let me have two days notice of my Tryal; but he did not: So that I tired my Friends with waiting, and my Witnesses being Strangers, that Expence was all lost. Now knowing my Innocency, and believing that the Prosecutors desired nothing more than to find out the Truth, I frankly sent them a Copy of my Case, and also another to the Coroner; the doing of which was my ruin: And I told my Lord the same at my Tryal; and he made Answer, "I was to blame in that: And thus it was *Verbatim*.

An Exact Account of the just Defence I made concerning my Innocency, touching the Inhuman Murther of Dr. Clinch, on the 4th of this Instant January, betwixt 9 and 11 a Clock.

My first Proof.

MR. Jones my Landlord, and Landlady, and the Maid, with one *Turner* a Porter, plying at *Shoole-Lane* end in *Fleet-street*, who carried my Port-Mantle-Trunk at or near 8 a Clock on that Night, to my Lodgings, at the *Golden Ball* in *Paul's Church-yard*; and after I had given Orders for a Fire to be light, I went from thence, and told them, I would be at home again betwixt 11 and 12.

My second Proof.

That betwixt 8 and 9 a Clock the same Night, I

came from my said Lodgings, and went along *Fleet-Street*, to the *King's Head* in *Crown Court* in *Chancery Lane*, over against *Serjeant's Inn*, where I play'd at Cards, from 9 a Clock or thereabouts, till 11 a Clock or thereabouts, the same Night; to prove this, the Master of the *King's Head*, his Wife and Maid, one Mr. *Baker* an Ironmonger, Mrs. *Whiple* a Cornet's Wife, one Mr. *White* and his Wife.

To confirm the Testimonies of these Persons, during the time we play'd at Cards, these two Accidents fell out; at 10 a Clock or thereabouts, a Hubbub arose in the said Court, about the Pumping a Woman that had pickt a Gentleman's Pocket: The other was about a quarter of an Hour after, That one *John Allan*, a Drawer at the *King's Head* Tavern at the end of *Chancery Lane*, came to the *King's Head* in *Crown Court*; he being somewhat Impertinent and Sawcy, as I thought, I rose from my Seat, went to the Door, and struck at him with my Muff; which the Drawer remembers.

My third Proof.

That Mr. *White* came to call his Wife home about half an Hour past ten a Clock, and found me at Cards with the said Company.

My fourth Proof.

That at my return home from that Place, at 11 a Clock or thereabouts, to my Lodgings, one Mr. *Sutton* and one Mr. *Russel*, Gent. of my Acquaintance was in a Coach, at the *King's Head* Tavern door at the end of *Chancery Lane*, drinking a Glass of Sack; They told me, They were going to the *Horse-Shoe* Tavern in *Drury Lane*, and desired me to go along with them; and I did go into the Coach to them: But I considering that it was too late, presently came out of the Coach again, and so walk'd all along *Fleet street*, home to my Lodgings in *Paul's*

Paul's Church-yard, and was at home at half an Hour past 11 a Clock, or thereabouts,

Pray observe, that I came from Mr. *Humpstead's* Lodgings before the Port-Mantle-Trunk was carried to my Lodgings, which he swore at 9 a Clock, when it was before 8 I was with him; which has given all the Suspicion.

Now let any one judge, whether it looks like as if I were guilty, to give my Adversaries an Account of my Witnesses, and what they could testify for me: But my Design in this, was That when they had found what I said to be true, I was in hopes they would have suffer'd me to Bail: But instead of that it turned to my ruin; for Dr. *Clinch's* Coach-man went to them, and abused them all, and every Body else that took my part; but however the second Sessions coming on, all my Friends and Witnesses attended two Days in hopes of my Tryal; my Witnesses being in the same House where theirs was, and they seeing me so well provided, my Tryal was put off till the third Sessions, upon pretence that they had discovered something more. Now I being in Prison, and without Money, and had given them all this trouble, and waiting two Sessions, all the time of the Sessions, they were very uneasie; besides being abused by Dr. *Clinch's* Coach-man, they would not trouble themselves any more. But this I had forgot, that most of them denied coming, because they said they should be abused and vilified, because the Murther was so black that was laid to my Charge. Whereupon I was forced to Petition the Lord Chief Justice for *Subpœnas*, which was granted me, which was both a great Charge and Trouble, I being confined, that I could not look after it my self; tho' I was promised, I should either be Tried or Bailed; but instead of that I was more strictly confined. Now from the last Sessions

Sessions till this, my Enemies were at work how to bring
 their Designs about; the first thing I heard was, That
 there was a Boy made away, and, as it was reported, by my
 Contrivance; and then he was put in the Gazette; but
 not being found out, at my Tryal his Examination was
 produced as an Evidence, which was allowed of as good,
 according to Law, and I believe it might be so, because
 my Lord Chief Justice said it was Law. Now I do
 protest I never heard of any Boy an Evidence against me,
 till it was told me in the Press-yard, That a Boy was
 made away that was an Evidence against me; whereup-
 on I answered, Why did they not try me last Sessions,
 for then they had the Boy? But I found there was no
 occasion for him this Sessions, considering the two young
 Maids this Sessions, one concerning the Handkerchief
 and the other seeing me in the Coach at *Brownlowstreet-*
end, as you will hear anon; God forgive them and those
 that put them upon it. Now this Sessions coming on, I
 was forced to have Subpena's, and the same Charge and
 Trouble again as I had been at before: But now it was
 too late, for Mr. *White* and his Wife kept out of the way,
 and so that they could not be found, nor did appear: I
 know not the Reason, but God forgive them, I fear there
 was foul Dealing. Mrs. *Whiple* did not appear, and
 the Maid could not come, because the House could not
 be left alone. Now the Day of my Tryal being come
 they would have put it off again, but that my Lord Chief
 Justice would not suffer it, and I pressing for it, it was
 granted me; and I must own my Lord had all the Pati-
 ence imaginable, so that I can find no Fault with Judges
 or Jury. I will now mention the most remarkable Pas-
 sages that I can remember as to the Evidence against me.
 The first was, to satisfy the Court the occasion of my be-
 ing suspected to be one of the Persons that committed the
 Fact, about the Hundred and twenty Pounds lent by the
 Doctor

Doctor to the Widow, my Acquaintance ; but what he swore I cannot remember ; but as I was informed, he was the Person that gave the first Suspicion of me to be the Man ; if so, God forgive him, for I had not seen him in three Months before the Doctor was murthered. The next that swore (for I cannot remember every thing, but this Passage) That I came to his Chamber, and laid my Hand upon my Sword, and said, I would be revenged on the Doctor : It is false, as I am a dying Man ; for there was no Discourse of the Doctor, but Matters relating to himself ; for the Doctor was always willing to do any thing for the Widow's Good, but was prevented by him. As for the two Witnesses at the Coffee House, that swore that I said, That I should say, " God D——him, he ought to " have his Throat cut. And the Woman more particularly swore this, that I said, " What, would he have a Woman " of your Quality go to Service ? G.D. him, he ought to " have his Throat cut. Pray observe, this Woman comes to *Newgate*. I coming to her, said, Mrs. *Joe*, I wonder you can sleep in your Bed, knowing the Wrongs you have done me ; she presently answered, " Lord ! Captain *Harrison*, all I said was, That you said he ought to be hanged, " but I believe it was in your Passion, and I really think " you are as Innocent as I am : Which was the reason why I asked in Court, What she had for swearing that ? This is true upon my Salvation.

I am sorry that I have not the Trial, and then I could better answer it : And I will not tell a Lye, now I am going out of the World, therefore would only hint at those things I am sure are false, and will not name any Person, but leave it to God to touch their Hearts in his due Time, for it cannot be expected I can remember all that was said in Court ; I will only mention the particular Sayings, and let them remember it after my Death. As to the Witness that said, I was at his Lodgings at nine
a Clock

2 a Clock exactly, and that I had a Gentleman staying below for me, and that I had urgent Business to do that Night, and several other Discourses about the poor Woman that Night : God forgive him for being positive to an Hour ; I might have believed it might have been that Time he swore, if Circumstances relating to the Gown, which he may know (by reading the Account of my Defence before-mentioned) must satisfy him to the contrary, though I fear the World cannot understand my Meaning; but I write this meerly for himself, that he may recollect himself of what he has done; when he knows in his Conscience my Business was another thing.

Now as to that Man in the *Compter*, who swore that the Night before the inhuman Murther was done, I was there, and being in Discourse with the Widow, he hearkned at the Door, and heard me say, G. D. me, I would have the Blood of *Hinch* or *Clinch*. This, or to the like effect, was what he swore ; I never said, I would be the Death of *Hinch* or *Clinch* in my Life, as I must appear at the Judgment Seat of God to answer it. As to that poor Woman, I pity her, whose Evidence was, That I was at her House on *S. Thomas Day* last, and had on a Black Shabby Sute, I think, were her Words. Upon my Salvation it is false, for I have not had a Black Coat on in three Months Time, before the Doctor was murdered, as several can Testifie, nor never wore any Coat but that I had on when I was brought before my Lord Chief Justice, which was the same I had on at my Tryal, in three Months Time before the Murther : I shall answer her Evidence no more.

As to the 2 Maids, I never heard of them as Evidences against me till I saw them in Court ; therefore you will think I had a hard Task to go through ; but God be thanked he supported me then, and believe he will continue

tinue it to me, and also assist me at the Hour of my Death.

As to the first Maid or Girl, about fifteen or sixteen Years old, as I take her to be, she keeps her Mother's Apple-shop: Her Evidence was, I told her, That I was a Parliament Man, and that one Day being out of the Room, she saw a Handkerchief there, and went to the Maid below, and said, Can this be a Parliament Man, and have such a Handkerchief as this? of such a like Piece the Maid had an Apron, and they compared them together, and they were almost alike. Now the Handkerchief that was about the Doctors Neck, when he was Murthered, was produced in Court; and she swore that was the Handkerchief, or very-like it: This was her Evidence. To the best of my Knowledg, or to the same Effect, upon my Salvation, it is false, for I never in my Life said I was a Parliament Man: or ever had I such a Handkerchief in all my Life as that was, to the best of my Knowledg.

As to the other Maid who swore, That she saw me by the glimmering of a Lamp in the Coach, at the end of *Brownlow* Street, and heard me talk, and was with me in Prison, and heard my Voice before she came into the Room where I was, and said, That was the Voice that I heard in the Coach that Night when the Doctor was Murthered. And I asked, Why she did not declare it before? Which my Lord Chief Justice observed; but the Gentleman who was Council against me, as I take it, put into her Head, and said, it was Scruple of Conscience, and that her Mother, or some Body else, would not let her meddle in such a dangerous Business. God forgive her, she did my Business; and God forgive them that put her upon it.

As to that Person who swore I said I was but just come out of *Kent*, and had been out of Town a Fortnight or

D

three

three Weeks : God forgive him, I leave it to his own Conscience, and pray to God that he would reform his Course of Life. I do not say this as a Reflection, God forbid I should, but rather as an Exhortation, that if he reads this, he may repent himself of the Wrongs done me.

And as for the Person who swore against me, of my being at his Lodgings exactly at 9 a Clock, which was the occasion of my unhappy Death, being false ; for it was at 8, which I convinced him of in Prison upon Circumstances. God Almighty pardon him, and lay it to his Heart, that he may truly repent himself ; and withal let him remember the Bond : He knows my meaning.

I have writ these Remarks upon my Tryal, which will be insignificant to Strangers ; for they will be scarcely understood by any but the Parties concerned, who have falsely sworn against me : And God in his due time touch their Hearts, that they may sincerely repent themselves ; and I freely forgive them, as I hope God in his Infinite Mercy will do me at the last Day. *Amen.*

I have one thing to add, That after my Condemnation, the next day a most scandalous Pamphlet came out, Entituled, *An Impartial Account of the Notorious Wicked Life of Captain Harrison* : One Passage in it I must take Notice of, which is this, My Rascally Behaviour towards the Duke of *Monmouth*, when he suffered on *Tower Hill*. I thank my God no one could be more sorry than my self for his unhappy end : As to the rest of it, being so scandalous, that all my Friends, Gentlemen and Acquaintance, know to the contrary : But it is hard that for the Lucre of a Penny, a Man dares write so many Lies ; but God forgive them that did it, for he would have writ the same upon his own Brother upon the like Occasion.

I have

I have writ this chiefly for my Relations, Friends and Acquaintance, who I do not fear but that they will believe me: And as for the rest of the World I leave it to them to judge as they please, till it shall please God to bring to Light this black Deed of Darkness, which he certainly will at his good appointed time; *Not our Will but his be done.* And now to conclude, The greatest thing that grieves me, as to this World, is, My Relations; but let this be their Comfort, as well as my Happiness, That I am Wronged, and that I am Innocent; and I do heartily beg of God to forgive those that falsely Swore against me; and more particularly that Person who was the first Author of the Suspicion: For I do bless the day wherein I was falsely Accused; for by that means I was brought to a sight of my former Sins, and do acknowledge it is God's Justice and just Judgment, for which I give Praise to his Holy Name, that I have this time to bewail, and repent my self of all my Sins, begging Pardon of all those I have any ways wrong'd, forgiving heartily every one that has wronged me; even those I do most heartily forgive who are the occasion of my Death; as I hope God will forgive me, and receive me unto his Everlasting Kingdom, through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ, his only Son, my Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Comfortable Sayings in the Holy Scripture, on which I rely, and put my Confidence and Trust in, through Jesus Christ my Saviour.

At the first opening of the Holy Bible, after the lying down upon the Ground in the Condemned Hole, after being found Guilty.

ISAIAH III.

A Rise, shine, for the light is come, and the Glory of the Lord is risen upon thee; for behold the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people, but the Lord shall rise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee; for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee glory to be to thee for this thy comfort, O Lord.

PSALM LXXI. 3.

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the ungodly, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. — vers. 6. I am become as a monster unto many, but my sure trust is in thee, vers. 9. For my enemies speak against me, and they that lay wait for my soul, take their counsel together, saying, God hath forsaken him, persecute him and take him, for there is none to deliver him. Vers. 10. Go not far from me, O God, my God, haste thee to help me. Vers. 23. My Lips
be

be fain, when I sing unto thee, and so will my soul whom thou hast delivered.

O God,—I faithfully trust in thee, to deliver me;
and believe thou wilt not forsake me, but that
thou wilt in this my Trouble make haste to help
me.

M A T T H E W XI. 28.

Come unto me all you that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

O Lord, I confess, I am heavy laden with my Sins,
but I trust in thee, that thou wilt ease me, and
that thou wilt give Rest to my Sick, Sinful
Soul; O cleanse it with the precious Blood of my
Saviour.

M A T T H E W XVII. 11.

For the Son of Man is come to save that which was lost, &c.

O Jesus Christ, my Saviour, I firmly believe thou
wilt save me; for I was lost to thee, but now am
found, thanks be to God my Saviour.

I T I M O T H. I. 15.

This is a true saying and worthy of all men to be received, That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

Glory be to thee O God, I heartily believe it, and
that thou camest to save Sinners, and me the
greatest of Sinners.

Now into thy Hands I commend my Spirit.

Mr.

Mr. Harrison's Letter to his Friend.

Dear Cousin,

Now accept of my hearty thanks for all your and your Wife's Services, and loving Kindnesses, and God Almighty reward you: I am now preparing my self for another World, and do heartily forgive all my Enemies. There were four of my Witnesses that did not appear, one Mr. White and his Wife, the Maid of the House where I was, and one Mrs. Fairlace; let not God lay my Blood to their Charge, and God forgive all those that swore falsely against me. And whether before my Execution or after God is pleased to bring to Light this Murder, I am sure he will do it; then the World will know my Wrongs: In the mean Time I resign my Soul and Body to him, who is a just God, and by this Means will bring me to himself. This Affliction is a great one, and more than Human Nature can bear; but I trust in him, that he will not lay more on me than he will give me the Grace of his Holy Spirit to undergo, and indeed I look upon it as a Fatherly Chastisement; for whom he loves he chastises: For if I had my Deserts he might have taken me in the midst of all my Sins, and have rewarded me with the Punishment of the everlasting Prison (Hell) prepared for all impenitent Sinners; but I hope he will give me the Grace of his Holy Spirit, to repent my self of all my Sins, which I have and do, and shall with the Help of him, with an Humble, Lowly and Obedient Heart, and not in the least Cloak or Dissemble them, before my Heavenly Father, who gave up his only begotten Son to die for Sinners, and me the greatest: And I hope he will give me his Grace to follow his Example, who was falsely Accused, Condemned and suffered a shameful Death upon the Cross, I being now falsely accused, and to suffer a shameful Death; at which Time I sincerely and heartily
beg

port me, which I trust in God he will,
 don, and confessing the Sins I have been
 one thing I beg of you, for Christ his
 ill take it from me, a dying Man, without
 es of Pardon here, from any Mortal Man,
 m Innocent, Clear and Free in Thought, Word and
 of this Bloody, Barbarous, unheard of Murther, the
 which several Times I have protested to you my Innocence,
 and for which I do suffer; surely knowing and certainly be-
 lieving, no Salvation can be had from Almighty God, the
 Searcher of Hearts, to any one who at the Hour of Death dies
 with a Lie in his Mouth; therefore desire your Prayers for
 me (being really Innocent) and all other good Christians
 Prayers, That God Almighty will be pleased to bring to
 Light this Bloody Deed, not when we would have him,
 but at his own appointed Time; not our Will, but his be
 done. And I beg of you, let me see you, for I have desired,
 That you and Cosen C——, and a Divine or two (and no
 Body else) may come to me, for I will not now Discourse
 any Persons relating to Worldly Affairs, but what may tend
 for the Salvation of my poor Soul. So recommending you to
 God, I rest,

The most Wronged Man, the most Unhappy
 Man, as to this World, yet one of the most
 Happy Men through Christ my Saviour, in
 whom I trust for my Eternal Salvation,

HEN. HARRISON.

E I N I S.

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely from the 18th or 19th century. The text is arranged in several paragraphs, though the ink is faded and the paper is aged. The handwriting is somewhat slanted and compact.

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or a short note, located below the main body of text. It appears to be a single line or two of writing.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, which may be a date, a location, or a final remark. The script is consistent with the rest of the document.

